

Message Text

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ORIGIN PM-05

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 080154

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: IR, MPOL, PARM

SUBJECT: U.S.-PERSIAN GULF POLICY

REF: TEHRAN 02710

1. APPRECIATE YOUR THOUGHTFUL OBSERVATIONS CONCERNING PRESIDENT'S WAKE FOREST SPEECH AND COMPATIBILITY OF IRANIAN AND U.S. POLICIES IN PURSUING REGIONAL STABILITY.
2. WHILE GOI MAY LINK PRESIDENT'S COMMENT (PARA 2 REFTEL) ABOUT INTERNATIONAL ARMS AGREEMENTS SPECIFICALLY TO ARMS TRANSFERS, IT WAS INTENDED IN MUCH BROADER CONTEXT. STATEMENT REFERS TO WIDE RANGE OF AGREEMENTS AND ONGOING NEGOTIATIONS,(I.E.SALT, MBFR, CONVENTIONAL ARMS TRANSFERS, CHEMICAL WARFARE, INDIAN OCEAN) AIMED AT REDUCING ARMS BUILDUPS AND THE LIKELIHOOD OF CONFRONTATION.

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3. SUGGEST YOU NOT RAISE ISSUE WITH GOI. SHOULD SUBJECT COME UP, YOU MAY FIND IT USEFUL TO LINK PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT TO DISCUSSION ON PAGES 2-3 OF UNCLASSIFIED FY 79 ANNUAL DEFENSE REPORT TEXT OF WHICH FOLLOWS:

"WE ARE NEGOTIATING (AND MUST CONTINUE TO NEGOTIATE) WITH THE SOVIETS FOR SPECIFIC, EQUITABLE AND ADEQUATELY

VERIFIABLE ARMS CONTROL AND DISARMAMENT AGREEMENTS--AGREEMENTS THAT STRENGTHEN INTERNATIONAL STABILITY, CURB THE ARMS COMPETITION, AND REDUCE ARMAMENTS; CONVENTIONAL AS WELL AS NUCLEAR."

4. IN ADDRESSING SPECIFIC QUESTION OF ARMS TRANSFERS, PRESIDENT INDICATED IN HIS MAY 19, 1977, ARMS TRANSFER POLICY STATEMENT THAT U.S. PLANNED TO MEET WITH OTHER ARMS SUPPLIERS INCLUDING SOVIET UNION, TO BEGIN DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE MEASURES FOR MULTILATERAL ACTION. IN ADDITION, HE STATED U.S. WOULD DO WHATEVER IT COULD TO ENCOURAGE REGIONAL AGREEMENTS AMONG PURCHASERS TO LIMIT ARMS IMPORTS. WE HAVE IN FACT BEGUN A DIALOGUE ON RESTRAINT WITH SOVIET UNION, WITH TALKS HELD IN WASHINGTON FROM DECEMBER 14-19, 1977. U.S. HAS ALSO BEEN IN CONTACT WITH OTHER SUPPLIERS AND RECIPIENTS, EMPHASIZING IMPORTANCE OF, AND NEED FOR, A COORDINATED MULTILATERAL APPROACH TO RESTRAINT. COOPER

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